

My Role Model

A role model, to me, is someone who guides people in the right direction, who helps others, and who people look up to. Harriet Tubman is a great example of a good role model. After she escaped from slavery, she immediately went back to save her family. Harriet rescued more than 70 slaves after that, risking her own life to save people she didn't even know. Another example of a good role model is Clara Barton. She brought supplies to injured soldiers on the battlefield, risking her life like Harriet, but in a more direct way. Clara is remembered mostly for organizing the American Red Cross, which helps thousands of people today. If she hadn't begun the organization, many people wouldn't be alive today. Harriet and Clara both showed an amazing act of bravery during their time. But a good role model isn't always someone who ends up being famous in the future like Clara Barton or Harriet Tubman. There are many role models who aren't recognized today, but they did something that made people want to be like them. In my case, my role model is my neighbor, Janell.

As long as I have known Janell, she has always helped others. She volunteers and cooks at a homeless shelter. She teaches English to international students in her spare time, and travels overseas on missions to Tanzania and Guatemala. She helps my brothers and me with our school projects, and gives us recommendations on our school work so we will become more successful in the future. Janell encourages me to live up to my potential, and she never criticizes my ideas and opinions. When I was in fourth grade, Janell helped me come up with ideas for an invention. She listened carefully as I explained the device I wanted to create, and gave me suggestions on how to make it better. Her willingness to help others has inspired me to help other people, too. For

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example, my mom, my brother, and I volunteer at the homeless shelter where we cook and serve food, and then help clean up at the end. I'm glad we volunteer, because the people at the homeless shelter are appreciative, and I feel good about helping them.

Janell also inspires me to volunteer at the library, where I help organize the shelves and plan for future youth events. Janell affects the way I think about volunteerism. I realize it's time well spent for a good cause. It helps other people in need, and at the same time, I also benefit and grow from the experience.

Janell may not be as well known as Harriet Tubman or Clara Barton, but in my mind, she is an admirable role model and she is famous to me. I hope that one day I will follow in her footsteps, and be as devoted to assisting others as she is.